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Date:

July 12, 2017

To:

Chair Councilman Ron Menor

Vice Chair Councilman Ikaika Anderson

and Members of the City Council

Submitted By:

Stephanie Kendrick, Public Policy Advocate

Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE:

Testimony in support of Resolution 17-133

Wednesday, July 12, 2017, 10 a.m., City Council Chamber

Aloha Chair Menor, Vice Chair Anderson and Council Members,

The Hawaiian Humane Society supports R17-133, which requests that the City Administration establish an off-leash dog park in Downtown Honolulu-Kakaako.

The Society advocates for responsible owners to be allowed to have animals in apartments, condominiums, rental units, residential care facilities, and in public places such as parks and beaches.

Companion animals are an integral part of our lives and our community. According to a Ward Research survey we commissioned in 2015, about 55 percent of Oahu households reported owning pets and about 43 percent reported owning dogs. As Kakaako is being transformed into one of Oahu's fastest growing residential neighborhoods, demand for infrastructure that supports the needs of pet owners is sure to increase.

Off-leash dog parks are just one element in the integration of our pets into our community. But they do play a role in the health and happiness of our pets and pet-owners and we support community efforts to increase their number on Oahu.

We encourage you to pass this resolution.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

MISC. COM. _____ 3464

COUNCIL